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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT NO. 25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

SUBJECT 1. Garrison at Stribro
2. Triangulation in the Rozvadov Area
3. Testing of Tanks at the Skoda Works

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1. Garrison at Stribro

The garrison at Stribro (Mies, N50/P74) consists of one battalion of the 11th Infantry Regiment and one artillery detachment. The infantry battalion is billeted in the former school building called "Konvikt"; its regimental headquarters is located in Pilsen ("Na Slovanech" barracks). One company of the Stribro battalion has been placed on detached service at the Bor Castle near Tachov (Tachau, N50/P54). The artillery detachment is billeted in the pre-war barracks and is equipped with horsedrawn Russian 152-cm. guns. The total strength of the Stribro garrison is 1,500 men.

2. Triangulation Towers in the Rozvadov Area

25X1X Triangulation towers are built in the Rozvadov area by a detachment of the Military Geographic Institute from Prague. The detachment headquarters is located in Bor near Tachov; a part of the military personnel is billeted in Rozvadov. [REDACTED] counted 50 triangulation towers on both sides of the Stribro-Rozvadov-Weidhaus road within a belt about 10 km. wide. The towers are built of wood. The construction has been going on since July 1948.

3. Skoda Works: Testing of Tanks

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On 30 January 1949, [REDACTED] eight tanks leaving No. 5 gate of the Skoda Plant in Pilsen, and on 8 February he saw eleven tanks leaving the same gate and heading in the direction of Bory, near Pilsen, where tank proving grounds are located. The tanks were of the German Tiger type, had no guns mounted on them, were driven by Skoda drivers, and had Skoda license plates for road-tested vehicles. The tanks are being assembled from parts of scrapped German tanks, from tanks left in Czechoslovakia by the retreating Germans, and from parts which the Skoda factory had manufactured for the Germans during the war. Serviceable parts from old tanks are being collected by a special military unit from Milovice equipped with mounted cranes. In November 1948 this unit collected salvageable parts from tanks and other armored vehicles abandoned in the vicinity of Stribro.

This document is hereby regraded to CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the letter of 16 October 1978 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

Next Review Date: 2008

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